

Docket No: PRZYTULLA-20
RCE of Appl. No. 09/867,581

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES
MADE, AND LISTING OF ALL CLAIMS WITH PROPER IDENTIFIERS**

1. (Currently amended) A drum comprising:

a generally square cross section side wall comprising a plurality of side wall sections connected by corner sections, the side wall having end portions disposed at longitudinal ends thereof;

first and second end walls located adjacent the end portions, the first end wall defining a fill/drain opening therein;

a circumferential carrying and transport rim disposed on at least one of the end portions and configured for carrying the drum with drum handling equipment; and

~~a first~~ an indentation formed on each of the side wall corner sections substantially intermediate the end portions, ~~the first said~~ indentations configured and dimensioned to resist buckling of the side wall, wherein the ~~drum defines a longitudinal axis between the end portions, and the indentation extends~~ and extending substantially circumferentially ~~about the side wall and around the~~ a longitudinal axis of the drum, wherein each of said indentation is gradually decreased in height relative to a longitudinal axis of the drum from an area of the corner sections and transitioned into a flat surface of a mid section of each of the side wall sections thereby defining a nearly circular configured cross section of the side wall and wherein the a circular is substantially V-shaped and deepest at the corner

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~~sections, wherein the first indentation is substantially V-shaped in a plane extending substantially parallel to the longitudinal axis.~~

2. (Cancelled)
3. (Cancelled)
4. (Cancelled)
5. (Cancelled)
6. (Currently amended) The drum of claim 1, wherein the drum defines a drum height between the end portions and substantially parallel to the longitudinal axis, and the ~~first~~ indentation is disposed in a plane located at about 30% to about 70% of the drum height.
7. (Currently amended) The drum of claim 1, wherein the side wall comprises ~~a further a second~~ indentation formed thereon, and extending ~~the second~~ indentation extends substantially in a direction of the longitudinal axis.
8. (Original) The drum of claim 1, further comprising a reinforcing ring disposed adjacent one of the end portions, the reinforcing ring having at least one arcuate portion and being dimensioned to allow rolling of the drum about the reinforcing ring.

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9. (Original) The drum of claim 1, further comprising at least one reinforcing rib formed in the end wall.

10. (Cancelled)

11. (Cancelled)

12. (Cancelled)

13. (Cancelled)

14. (Cancelled)

15. (Cancelled)

16. (Cancelled)

17. (Cancelled)

18. (Cancelled)

19. (Currently amended) A drum comprising:

a side wall comprising a first and second portion, said first and second portion having a plurality of side wall sections that define a ~~substantially~~ rectangular an approximately square first cross section of the side walls, the side wall having end portions disposed at longitudinal ends thereof; an annular a protrusion formed ~~in the~~ between the first and second side wall portions and extending in circumferential direction around a central axis of the drum ~~substantially intermediate end portions~~ to resist buckling of the side wall, ~~the protrusion~~ and defining a substantially circular second cross-section of the side wall;

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first and second end walls located adjacent the end portions, the first end wall defining a fill/drain opening; and
a circumferential carrying and transport rim disposed on at least one of the end portions and configured for carrying with drum handling equipment.

20. (Cancelled)

21. (Cancelled)

22. (Original) The drum of claim 19, wherein the protrusion protrudes inwardly into the drum.

23. (Cancelled)

24. (Cancelled)

25. (Original) The drum of claim 19, wherein the side wall has a substantially uniform thickness.

26. (Original) The drum of claim 19, wherein the first cross-section comprises four convex wall sections connected by four radiused corner sections, and a first radius is measured from a center of the first cross-section to a midpoint of the wall sections, and a second radius is measured from the center of the first cross-section to a midpoint of the corner sections, wherein the second radius is between about 10% and about 50% longer than the first radius.

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27. (Original) The drum of claim 19, wherein the drum is of plastic material and has a volumetric capacity of between about 10 gallons and about 80 gallons, and at least one of the wall sections is reinforced such that the drum can support at least one second similar drum that is substantially filled and stacked on top of the drum for resisting buckling of the wall sections.
28. (Original) The drum of claim 19, wherein the circumferential carrying and transport rim comprises an outwardly protruding lip substantially having an L-shape and configured such that the drum can be lifted by the transport rim using drum handling equipment.
29. (Canceled)
30. (Canceled).
31. (Original) The drum of claim 19, wherein the drum defines a drum height between the end portions, and the protrusion is disposed in a plane located at about 30% to about 70% of the drum height.
32. (Cancelled)
33. (Original) The drum of claim 19, wherein the side wall sections are joined by corner sections, and the protrusion is substantially V-shaped at the corner sections.

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34. (Currently amended) A drum comprising:

a side wall comprising a plurality of side wall sections connected by corner sections, the side wall having end portions disposed at longitudinal ends thereof, wherein the drum defines a longitudinal axis between the end portions;

first and second end walls located adjacent the end portions, the first end wall defining a fill/drain opening therein;

a circumferential carrying and transport rim disposed on the drum and configured for carrying the drum with drum handling equipment; and

an angular indentation formed on the side wall in the area of the corner sections intermediate the end walls and extending towards a mid-point in the side wall section, wherein the indentation is deeper taller at the corner sections and gradually decreased in height relative to a longitudinal axis of the drum toward in the mid-point section of the side wall section than it is at a point on at least one of the side wall sections intermediate the corner sections, and the indentation is substantially V-shaped in a plane extending substantially parallel to the longitudinal axis, wherein the side wall sections define a first circumferential cross-section that is approximately square, and the angular indentation defines a second circumferential cross-section that is nearly circular.

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35. (Previously presented) The drum of claim 34, wherein the indentation is shallowest at a point on the side wall sections intermediate the corner sections.
36. (Previously presented) The drum of claim 34, wherein the indentation is substantially V-shaped and deepest at the corner sections.
37. (Cancelled)
38. (Cancelled)
39. (Currently amended) A drum comprising:
a an approximately square cross-sectional side wall comprising a plurality of side wall sections connected by corner sections, the side wall having end portions disposed at longitudinal ends thereof;
first and second end walls located adjacent the end portions, the first end wall defining a fill/drain opening therein;
a circumferential carrying and transport rim disposed on the drum and configured for carrying the drum with drum handling equipment; and
an indentation formed on the side wall substantially intermediate the end walls, wherein the indentation defines a nearly circular cross section in the side wall which coincides with the approximately square cross section of the side wall at a mid section of each side wall section. ~~vertical thickness that varies around the circumference of the side wall.~~

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40. (Cancelled)

41. (Cancelled)

42. (Canceled)

43. (Previously presented) The drum of claim 39, wherein the indentation is substantially V-shaped and deepest at the corner sections.

44. (Currently amended) The drum of claim 39, wherein the side wall sections define a first circumferential cross-section that is substantially approximately square, and the indentation defines a second circumferential cross-section that is substantially circular.

45. (Cancelled)